



Harding University Scholar Works at Harding

Wyatt Sawyer Sermon Outlines

Wyatt Sawyer Archive

10-12-1959

What Jesus Teaches About Human Suffering

Wyatt Sawyer

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.harding.edu/wyatt-sawyer-sermons>

Recommended Citation

Sawyer, W. (1959). What Jesus Teaches About Human Suffering. Retrieved from <https://scholarworks.harding.edu/wyatt-sawyer-sermons/392>

This Sermon is brought to you for free and open access by the Wyatt Sawyer Archive at Scholar Works at Harding. It has been accepted for inclusion in Wyatt Sawyer Sermon Outlines by an authorized administrator of Scholar Works at Harding. For more information, please contact scholarworks@harding.edu.



476.

What Jesus Teaches About Human Suffering

Int. Poem: In Her Steps. Jesus has gone ahead of us in life. Heb. 4:15.
 Problem of human suffering one of man's most baffling questions.
 Deut. 29:29. Secret things belong to God. Much wisdom to man.
 Don't believe man will ever understand all mysteries here, but Christ can give us much light on the subject.

I Common-Sense Thoughts make a good Beginning.

- A. All men are flesh and subject to pain + suffering.
 Job 14:1-2. Heb. 9:27. I Pet. 1:24-25.
- B. God's Natural Laws apply to all men equally. ^{Law + order.}
 1. Good people susceptible to disease, accident, mistakes + errors.
- C. God's Spiritual Laws apply to all men equally too. ^{System.}
 Matt. 28:18-20. Mk. 16:15-16. Act. 17:30. Matt. 10:32.
 1. Sin is violation of the Law. I John 3:4. Rom. 6:23. Rom. 3:23. Penalties.
- D. A good man, using bad judgment is going to suffer.
 1. Ethel E. Parton. First wife a good manager. 2nd + bankruptcy!
 2. Christian former at Biggers, Ark. River up, fishing good, lost a cotton crop. Ignorance, intemperance or laziness hurts!

II What Jesus Said & using His Ministry

- A. Suffer if stand for the right. Matt. 5:10-12. II Tim. 3:12.
- B. Suffer if hold to truth. I John 3:13. Matt. 10:34-39.
- C. Suffer if expose dishonesty and error. Matt. 21:28-32; 33-44; 45-46.
- D. Suffer if do right. I Pet. 3:14 + I Pet. 2:21.

III What He Inspired Paul to teach.

- A. Rom. 8:18. Sufferings vs Glory. Ill. Marnesi's shack burned. Tragedy? No! Squalor.
- B. II Cor. 4:16-17. a light affliction. Ill. Mrs Ruth Zimmerman, arthritis, yet knitted 500 sweaters.
- C. II Tim. 2:3 Endure hardness as good soldier.
- D. Rom. 8:28. Suffering corrects, tests, proves, trains and softens. Paul's stamps

Int. Word suffering: Eternal suffering. Rev. 14:11. Not necessary. Rev. 21:1-6.
 Your choice: Etern. l. suffering OR eternal bl.:s + rest!

THE PROBLEM OF HUMAN SUFFERING

ROM. 8:18, 28-29

II Cor. 4:17 ①

A false approach to becoming a Christian.
 A man becomes a Christian. Matt. 6:33. He immediately becomes healthy, wealthy and wise and retires at the age of 25. He suffers no reverses, temptations, fears or heartaches. He does everything right and nothing wrong. He feels no pain, no sorrow and never weeps. However, he soon loses ambition, initiative, human sympathy, a capacity for mercy; feels no pity for the poor, no need of God, has no fear of death and makes no preparation for the judgment. Thus, he is lost eternally..... because he became a Christian. Wrong idea!!!!

INT:

I. WE SEEM BAFFLED BY SEEMING INJUSTICES OF LIFE

- A. Sanction untimely death of criminal, wonder why when a beautiful child.
- B. Consent to disease in drunkard, decry the same in devoted Christian man.
- C. Adversity just reward for infidel, but what is it when comes to a Christian?
- D. One thing to remember: Romans 3:23.

1st Ans: Present reaping of past sowing. Gal. 6:7.

II. GOD'S NATURAL WORLD NO RESPECTOR OF PERSONS.

Matt. 5:45

- A. Religion has nothing to do with inherited weaknesses, tendencies and traits.
- B. Christians as susceptible to contagious diseases as lowest reprobate.
- C. Christian just as prone to accident under equal conditions as wildest heathen.
- III. Either die in smashup against tree at 70 mph, Terrel Park, Beaumont. SIN!
- D. Ours is a world of law and order. All obey.
 - 1. Chr. that violates law of gravity will fall to his death as quickly as sinner.
 - 2. Without fixed laws, all life would be uncertain and unpredictable, confusion.
- E. Difference in Christian and Non-Believer???
- 1. Chr. has faith and fortitude to lead him.

III. GOODNESS MUST BE TEMPERED WITH WISDOM. MT. 10:16

- A. Best Chr. in world go bankrupt if he defies the laws of good business.
- III. Oattie E. Parten. 1st wife the secret.

B. Any Christian who fails to cooperate with nature will suffer loss.

Ill. Biggers, Ark. farmer lost crop because fishing was so good.

C. Good balance avoids much suffering.

1. Idealism balanced by realism.

2. Faith complimented by foresight.

3. Prayers accompanied by prudence.

4. Spirituality plus frugality (thrift).

D. Neither God nor man owes you anything.

If think so, why so??? We owe all.

not of all, obedience.

END

st. Paul

IV. SUFFERING OFTEN BRINGS OUT THE BEST IN US.

A. Discipline is learned through suffering.

1. Hebrews 5:8-9.

2. Israel conditioned for 430 years.

Took 40 more to finish the job.

B. Christ learned the art of empathy. Heb. 4:15.

1. I never sympathized with surgery cases until I suffered the pains of surgery.

2. Ill. Chinese mother wanted Buddah to resurrect dead son. Will if get name of one family who has suffered no death.

C. Paul's great work possible through suffering.

II Cor. 12:7-10.

1. Success makes us proud and complacent; need thorns and suffering to progress.

2. Suffering keeps us weak so God can be strong in us. Vs. 9.

D. Burdens are God's way of saving us from floodwaters of trials and temptation.

1. Ill. Bridge threatened by flood. Trucks fully loaded rushed on it. Burden held it.

See page 2.

Keep us dissatisfied.

②

V. SUFFERING, GOD'S WAY OF IMPROVING WORLD.

A. Cancer hit criminals only, never find a cure.

1. Hit children and Christians. Remedy!

B. Polio attack reprobates and drunkards only. "Leave it alone!"

* 1. Hit president, governor, the preacher's best lady friend, baby. Salk!!!!

C. Takes tragedy among our young, noble and best loved to affect progress.

D. Life is like a picture: one stroke at a time. "Wait till finished."

INV: God controls the world through natural and divine laws. (Providence)

Any defiance of God's law may bring suffering

All will suffer and eventually die. Heb.9:27.

Christian will understand the mystery and work with God and life instead of against it.Ill. Doctor: "You will die in 3 to 6 months"

"Now I can read all those books

I've been wanting to read."

Doctor became ill. *3 to 6 months* Was enraged, scared and fought the illness. Died shortly. ~~instead of a few years.~~

Other man cured by complete relaxation.

Your cure for sin is relaxation from sin.

B R C B

R P

*also:
Chastisement, Heb. 12:5-14.*